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the value of such a work is apparent, providing, of course, it has been well done, and this can be said of this the second edition of Dr. Eberstadt's book. It is in fact more than a mere hand-book: it deals with the housing question in all of its general phases—past and present, but with special reference to Germany. Beginning with a historical introduction, the author traces the evolution of city-building through its ancient, medieval, and modern periods for the purpose of showing that the present problems are largely the result of inherited systems and theories wrongly applied to modern social conditions. Present municipal conditions are portrayed by an array of fact and statistics relating to population occupations, rents, land-values, taxes, capital, streets, etc., in their relation to the housing problem as applied to the various classes. The social and legal relations of the city and commune to the state and imperial governments receives due attention while the work of voluntary associations and private building societies is also briefly treated. About sixty pages are devoted to housing conditions in England and other states. A number of typical, recent, local and general building ordinances are given in an appendix, while comparative tables of statistics upon various phases of municipal activities, and numerous illustrations and plans, are interspersed throughout the work. A bibliography, following each chapter, and a good index, at the close, add much to its general usefulness as a work of reference.

KARL F. GEISER.

*South America, Observations and Impressions.* By JAMES BRYCE.  
(New York: the MacMillan Company, 1912. pp. xxiv, 589.)

*South America of Today.* By GEORGES CLEMENCEAU. (New  
York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1912. Pp. xii, 434.)

*La Republica Argentina.* By ADOLFO POSADA. (Madrid: Suarez,  
1912. Pp. xi, 488.)

*The American Mediterranean.* By STEPHEN BONSAI. (New  
York: Moffat Yard and Company, 1912. Pp. xiv, 488.)

Mr. Bryce, in the South American observations and impressions which he has given to the world, dwells upon those things that meet the eye of the observant traveler; the things that engage his attention are the human material of South America, with all its varied racial attributes, the features of natural scenery, the economic resources of

the countries visited, and the general aspect of social life. In this volume Mr. Bryce is rather the general observer than the political scientist; but that keen power of observation, that just criterion which renders his political writings so distinguished, is here again manifested in the portrayal of South American scenery and life. There are a few general chapters on political conditions, and on the two Americas, in which matters of political action are touched upon; but Mr. Bryce does not intend to do more than give some suggestive indications. With diplomatic reserve he abstains from any critical analysis; he sees the interesting side of life, and in a charming literary manner allows us to participate in the joys of travel; but he does not feel called upon to analyse political phenomena into their ultimate factors.

The book is one of observation, and not of discussion; but it abounds with many luminous sayings in which the author suggests his views of political affairs, as when he says, concerning the fortifications of the Panama Canal: "Who are the enemies whom it is desired to repel?" When speaking of the fighting so frequent in South America, he says: "If war, apart from the pure aim and high spirit for which it conceivably may be, but seldom has been, undertaken, lifts and ennobles, as well as toughens the fiber of a nation, what virtues ought it not to have bred in these South American countries?" Or again, he testifies that "the big nation has generally borne such provocations with patience, abusing its strength less than the rulers of the little ones abuse their weakness." Mr. Bryce interests himself primarily in the racial problems of South America, and studies with special zeal the characteristics of native tribes in Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and on the east coast. He devotes a chapter to the relations of the races in South America, in which the forecast as to the future composition of the population in the tropical regions, though hopeful, is not entirely optimistic. The author seems however, to underestimate the amount of race mixture between the Spanish and the native elements in the rural parts of Argentina.

Mr. Bryce's experience in Lima seems to have been less delightful than a visit to that city is apt to be, he was oppressed by its damp and murky air, while usually the climate of Lima leaves little to be desired. It is evidently a slip, when it is stated that the inhabitants of the valley of Piura in 1786 were mostly negroes. President Leguia escaped from the attempted *coup d'état* in 1909 with mere insults on the part of his assailants; he was not wounded and left for dead. In speaking of Balmaceda the impression is given that the chief cause of quarrel between him and parliament was a claim that he could levy taxes without its

consent; it was rather his attempt at interference with elections, and his opposition to the responsibility of ministers to Parliament, that were the points at issue, while his action of continuing over the budget for another year was an instrument of warfare. The Chilean term "roto" as applied to the common people is usually interpreted as meaning "ragged" rather than "broken down." Brazilian titles of nobility do not apply to families, but only to individuals who already bore them under the empire; with their death the titles lapse.

It would be difficult to follow Mr. Bryce in his opinion that Spanish America has shaken itself free from European habits more completely than Teutonic America. As a matter of fact, the entire intellectual life of South America is adjusted to European standards. That the Brazilians seem to give attention primarily to practical subjects of study is undoubtedly due to the fact that these subjects have recently come into a position of more recognized importance; but, essentially the quality of the Brazilian mind is literary, oratorical, and poetical. Men seek distinction by literary expression, and Brazil has developed the most important literature of South America. The judgment that South America has not produced a thinker, poet, or artist even of the second rank, is perhaps true as an absolute statement; and yet it contains a certain injustice. South America has had men of the highest ability, but they have lacked a public such as an Anglo-Saxon writer appeals to, on account of the lack of intellectual relations between the different South American countries.

The book of M. Clemenceau is an interesting account of the famous French statesman's sojourn in Argentina and Brazil, in which he gives us his observations on South American life, and incidentally repays courtesies extended to him by a very appreciative estimate of Argentinian civilization. While the book makes very interesting reading, it does not give us much new information about South American life, nor does it attempt a solution of the many problems that confront the observant traveler. Some of the general statements do not convey very precise ideas, as when he says: "The Brazilians possess in an equal degree with the Argentinians the capacity of bringing to the highest point of perfection any work to which they set their hand;" or again, "The distinctive traits of the Brazilian people would appear to be an irresistible force of impetuosity in an invariably gracious guise, and every talent necessary to insure the fulfillment of their destiny." In reading such statements as: "The family tie appears to be stronger in the Argentine than in perhaps any other land," and "All that can

be seen of the public morals is most favorable;" one is inclined to question by what methods of comparison the author arrived at such conclusions. The author's chapters on Argentinian politics and on life in the Pampas are of special interest and value. He emphasizes the religious freedom of Argentina, and the almost complete separation of the political and religious factors. But when he says that in Argentina, patriotism is almost a mania, and speaks of "rabid Argentinism under a European veil," he may indeed be portraying the mental attitude of individuals; but in the general Argentinian temper the cosmopolitan element seems to be rather stronger than the author would imply. He recognizes the importance of the Indian element in Argentinian nationality, but when he speaks of "Indian simplicity, dignity, nobility, and decision of character, modifying the turbulent European blood," he seems to be talking in a romantic vein. An interesting sentence is: "Our implacable civilization has passed sentence on all races that have been unable to adapt themselves to our form of social evolution."

Professor Posada's book on the Argentine Republic is the work of a scholar, who bases his results primarily on reading and investigation, supplementing these with personal observations on Argentinian life and institutions. He enters quite fully into a discussion of the disparity between the Argentinian constitution and political practice, and shows how, through the oligarchic system which obtains in Argentinian politics and enterprise, a fertile soil has been prepared in this new country for Socialism and Socialist agitation. The municipal activities of Buenos Ayres, the Argentinian education system, and life in the rural regions are also dealt with in a very informing manner. The Spanish scholar feels much freer than the British diplomat and the French statesman to approach the actual and essential facts of Argentinian life.

Mr. Stephen Bonsal has given us a very interesting, informing, and readable book, on the Caribbean and Central American countries. He has visited these regions, and with his account of their recent history and economic development there are interwoven observations made during his travels. He describes the backwardness of the black republics of Hawaii and Santo Domingo, the success of the American fiscal protectorate in the latter republic, the Castro régime in Venezuela, the economic stagnation in many of the West Indian Islands, and gives an especially valuable chapter to an account of the difficulties which Madero's government has to overcome in Mexico. This statesman has enlisted the author's admiration, who sees the main root of his troubles

in Madero's high sense of justice, which has proclaimed that "to the victors belong no spoils," and to the confidence with which he relies upon the possibility of conducting the government as a civilian, without the pomp or cruelty of a military dictatorship. Mr. Bonsal believes in the extension of the system of American fiscal protection to other weak republics, in order to give them an opportunity to improve their administration and develop their resources. He emphasizes the unselfishness of American policy in trying to build up a Central American union and is generally favorable to the recent aims of American diplomacy. Perhaps it may be said that the author has been too prone to represent new developments of policy as already completely contained in negotiations of decades ago, as when he says that the Cuban situation was not really changed by the Platt amendment, or that the Lodge resolution practically reaffirms<sup>1</sup> in other words the principle of the Monroe Doctrine, adding, however, "and constitutes an important development in our foreign policy."

PAUL S. REINSCH.

*The American Occupation of the Philippines.* By JAMES H. BLOUNT.  
(New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1912. Pp. 655.)

"Singleness of purpose" is a sadly over-worked phrase, but had the author of *The American Occupation of the Philippines* embodied this homely principle in his book, there would have been no need for reviewing it in this publication, as it should have been purely a history of the military period of our colonial government in the Philippine Islands. The author has turned aside from this worthy historical task, however, in order to advance a host of arguments regarding various phases of our colonial policy. Nevertheless, in giving us a fairly accurate even though entirely one sided picture of the "Dark Ages" of our colonial history, Judge Blount has performed a real service. Having been a soldier and judge in the Philippine Islands until 1905 he is well qualified to describe a period that was primarily one of military and legal suppression of militant insurrection. His personal observations are backed by documentary evidence, consequently the picture of governmental blunders and of manipulation for the benefit of party politics in the United States is quite convincing even though it is unfair.

Judge Blount's health broke down in November, 1904, when he was